

ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF ANNEX OF IPER

Pages 2 and 2a
Claim 14 (2 pp.)

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A generic device is known from US-A-6,101,786. Disclosed therein are filling units which are arranged fixedly on a rotary machine but neither processing lines are provided on the rotary machine nor are radial transport devices provided on the rotary machine.

The present invention is therefore based on the object of implementing and refining a filling machine of the type initially cited and described in greater detail above in such a way that - at the same output - more time may be made available for the individual processes (sterilization, filling, and sealing process), particularly to prevent the undesired foaming.

This object is achieved in that multiple assemblies, made of a sterilization unit, a drying unit, and a filling unit, which are assembled into processing lines, are firmly positioned on a rotating rotary machine and the transport direction of the composite packages on the rotary machine runs radially around the axis of rotation.

According to a preferred teaching of the present invention, the rotary machine is rotated continuously around the axis of rotation in this case.

A further teaching of the present invention provides that the transport of the composite packages in the radial direction occurs in the radial direction each on a plurality of

traveling feeders corresponding to the number of the assembly rows. A fixed support rail is expediently used as the control element for the floor guides of the composite packages is positioned below the rotating rotary machine. This fixed support rail preferably has at least one recess for the discharge of the filled and possibly sealed composite packages.

According to a further preferred embodiment of the present invention, the composite packages positioned on the rotating

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P A T E N T A N S P R Ü C H E

14. A method for filling foodstuffs, particularly beverages, in composite packages which are open on top and transported in a rotating fashion, and for sealing the packages by means of a filling machine, using a package transport device, a sterilization unit, a drying unit, a filling unit, and a sealing unit, characterized by the following steps:

- inserting the composite packages open on top into a rotating rotary machine, on which multiple aggregates made of a sterilization unit, a drying unit, and a filling unit, which are assembled into processing lines, are firmly positioned,
- sterilizing and drying the composite packages during the rotational transport,
- radial transport of the sterilized and dried composite packages into the filling unit,
- filling the composite packages,
- radial transport of the filled composite packages to the sealing unit,

- sealing the composite packages, and
- transferring the composite packages out of the filling machine.